




M E M O R A N D U M
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER TC

Agenda Item No. 7(A)

TO: Honorable Chairperson and Members
Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 27, 2003

FROM: 
Steve Shiver
County Manager

SUBJECT: Monthly OPTM Report and 90 day
Outlook

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of the improvements undertaken by the Office of Public Transportation Management (OPTM) pursuant to the passage of the People's Transportation Plan and the proposed initiatives slated for the first quarter of 2003.

On November 5, 2002, the voters of Miami-Dade County overwhelmingly passed the People's Transportation Plan. The following summarizes the accomplishments subsequent to the election and the proposed goals and objectives scheduled for the next 90 days.

Activities since November 5, 2002:

- Implemented on November 6, 2002 free fares for Metromover and free transit for Miami-Dade citizens age 65 and above;
- Initiated the Little Haiti Connector, the Little Havana Circulator and the Coconut Grove Circulator in November and December of 2002; and made improvements to 12 existing Metrobus routes (i.e. longer hours, weekend service, etc.);
- MDT has hired 79 new employees since November 5th and is slated to hire an additional 93 employees in the next 90 days. Total new hires by the end of the year will be approximately 807. These will include 495 new bus operators, 82 bus mechanics and 47 Transit Operations Supervisors;
- Ordered 100 full size buses for June 2003 delivery to support the Peoples Transportation Plan (PTP);
- Issued and received responses to our Request for Letters of Interest to obtain 70 mini-buses which will provide new service in the first year of the Peoples Transportation Plan (PTP);
- Held PTP Municipal Workshop in December 2002 outlining project criteria and guidelines;

- Met with FDOT, MDX and Tri-Rail to map action plan on development of the East-West line from FIU to Downtown Miami;
- Dedicated and opened the new Florida International University (FIU) Bus Terminal. Facility servicing approximately 1230 passengers per week. FDOT provided 50% of funding;
- Opened the South Miami-Dade Busway 168 Street Park and Ride facility on December 16, 2002;
- Broke ground on the South Miami-Dade Busway, Phase II, Segment I from Southwest 211th Street to Southwest 264th Street;
- Updated the department action plan that outlines service plans and resources needed to implement the People's Transportation Plan (PTP) improvements;
- Reviewed the Earlington Heights-MIC Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and provided departmental comments. Authorized Development Team to complete DEIS process, including MPO action;
- Finalizing work at the Palmetto Station. Contractor is preparing the project for final inspection, performed the coordination of quality control activities and OPTM is currently in the process of providing final touch ups and cleanup;
- The bid opening for the Busway Extension to Florida City Segment I-N was held on December 18, 2002.

The following is a list of initiatives to be undertaken within the next 90 days by the Office of Public Transportation Management:

Proposed Service Improvements

- Implementation of the Coral Way MAX, the Hialeah Gardens Connector, and the Sweetwater Connector;
- Improve peak headways from 60 to 30 minutes for bus routes E, R, V, 28, 35, 57, 65, 70, 91, and 104;
- Put into service an additional 70 new mini-buses beginning in March of 2003;
- Complete the Metrorail Extension to the Palmetto Expressway and open the Palmetto Station for revenue service;
- Award and begin construction on Segment I-N of the Busway Extension to Florida City;
- Begin updating the North Corridor Metrorail FEIS study;

- Begin design of the Downtown Bus Terminal project;
- Approval of the supplemental agreements for the six Miscellaneous Professional Services Agreements (consultant contracts);

Legislative Initiatives/Grant Applications

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES: Prepare FY 04 federal legislative and appropriations package, to include the following:

TEA 21 Reauthorization Request:

- North Corridor (including the Earlington Heights/Miami Intermodal Center Connector)
- East-West Corridor
- Kendall Corridor
- Northeast Corridor
- South Dade Corridor

New Starts Appropriations

North Corridor:

- \$10 million in New Starts funds for final design and construction.

East-West Corridor:

- Seeking \$10 million in New Starts funds for preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition.

Bus Related Appropriations:

Bus Programs: \$15 million funding request of discretionary federal bus and bus-related funds to enhance current levels of service to meet growing transportation demand, including 24-hour bus service.

- *South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System:* \$25 million request for procuring and implementing a common fare collection system that will make travel between Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties seamless, convenient and cost effective.
- *Security and Surveillance System:* Support \$23 million funding request to enhance and install security and surveillance systems through Miami Dade Transit's (MDT) transit properties and vehicles.
- *Northwest 7th Avenue Bus Facility:* A transit hub at the intersection of NW 7th Avenue and NW 62nd Street will provide seamless access for commuters to and from the Liberty City.

TEALU General Priorities:

- Support legislation that strengthens transportation funding guarantees. The Firewall and Revenue Aligned Budget Authority provisions of TEA-21 should be strengthened to ensure that all revenues in the Highway Trust Fund are spent for their intended purpose.

- Support legislation that increases funding for transportation from the Highway Trust Fund and General Fund.
- Support legislation that maximizes the return of funding to Florida; the next federal act should guarantee Florida at least a 95% return of contribution to the Transportation Fund.
- Support legislation that expands innovative financing techniques, such as leverage leases and Transportation Finance Corporations.
- Support legislation that maintains oversight of transit security issues with the federal government and prevents its transfer to the states.

STATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES: Prepare FY 03 State legislative package, to include the following:

FY 03 Appropriations Request:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • North Corridor | \$10,000,000 |
| • Bus Service Enhancements | \$ 5,000,000 |
| • Downtown Bus Terminal /Flagler | \$ 2,500,000 |
| • Northeast Miami-Dade Passenger Center | \$ 2,500,000 |

FY 03 State Legislative Request:

- Support legislation that would provide additional revenues for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program and;
- Support any legislation that would continue to provide additional funds for the Work and Gain Economic Self Sufficiency (WAGES) program or related programs such as the Welfare-to-Work program.
- Support the continued funding of the County's Incentive Grant Program.
- Support legislation that would provide additional funds for the Medicaid Transportation Program and.
- Support any legislation that would continue the Transportation Outreach Program (TOP).
- Support language modification to Chapter 316 and Chapter 322.61 as follows:
- To comply with new federal legislation that requires state's to disqualify individuals convicted of "serious" traffic violations from being issued a Commercial Driver's License.
- To comply with new federal legislation that requires states to revoke an individual's Commercial Driver's License if convicted of "serious" traffic violations.
- Support any amendment to Florida Statute 163.567 enabling the conversion of the existing South Florida Regional Transportation Organization (RTO) to a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA); to include the renaming of the Tri-County Commuter Rail Authority as the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust

- Mailed notices to the twenty civic and business organizations appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to nominate names;

- Will present names of Nomination Committee, for Board approval, to the Board of County Commissioners at their January 23, 2003 meeting;
- Subsequent to BCC approval, schedule and hold meetings of the Nomination Committee;
- Forward to BCC names of candidates to the CITT chosen by the Nomination Committee;
- Selection of members of the Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust by the Board of County Commissioners;
- First meeting of the CITT.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

Correspondence/Document Delivery Verification Sheet

CORRESPONDENCE SUBJECT MATTER:

NINE MONTH OPTM REPORT AND 90 DAY OUTLOOK

ADDRESSEE	RECEIVED BY	DATE/TIME	COMMENTS
Mayor Alex Penelas	Belarus	8/6/03 / 3:44 PM	
Commissioner Betty T. Ferguson	Joe Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	
Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle	Callender	8/6/03 @ 4:11 PM	
Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson	M. Wike	8/6/03 @ 4:05	
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman	Donnelly	8/6/03 4:09	
Alfredo Gonzalez-Comm. Barreiro's Office	Callender	8/6/03	
Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro	M. Wike	8/6/03 @ 4:06	
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:08	
Commissioner Jimmy L. Morales	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:06	
Commissioner Katy Sorenson	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:18	
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	
Senator Javier D. Souto	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	
Commissioner Joe A. Martinez	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	
Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	
Commissioner Natacha Seijas	A. Dunsidine	8/6/03 4:10	

George M. Burgess, County Manager

Bill Johnson, Assistant County Manager

Lisa MacMillion, Assist. C.M.

Hilda Fernandez, Mayor's Office

Hand Carried 3:55 PM